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Statement of resolutions passed by the Madras Legislative Council during the third session of the Third Legislative Council, 1928–29, and the action taken thereon by the Government—*cont.*

| Serial number and subject of the resolution. | When passed by the Council. | Nature of action taken by Government. |
|---|---|---|
| 5. Reconsideration of the Government Order on the report of the Mettur Project Deputation in regard to the supply of water for irrigation purposes in Coimbatore, Salem and Trichinopoly districts and in regard to various other matters specified in the resolution. | 29th November 1928. | *Item* (1) *of the resolution.*—So far as the Salem district is concerned the Government have issued orders appointing a special staff to investigate the problem afresh. These orders have been placed on the Editors' Table. As regards extension of irrigation in the Coimbatore district the only feasible way to supply water from the Mettur Dam would be to connect up the late Mr. Moss's west side channel with the project. A fairly accurate statement has already been prepared for this scheme. In the Trichinopoly district it is proposed to investigate the following schemes :—<br>(i) two high level channel schemes, a more extensive scheme to irrigate 50,000 acres and a smaller one to irrigate 10,000 acres ;<br>(ii) the North Bank channel scheme.<br>A special officer has been deputed to conduct this investigation. The extension of irrigation from the Mettur Project in any of these three districts will depend on the results of these investigations.<br>2. As regards the other recommendations contained in the resolution the hon. the Leader of the House gave reasons why they could not be accepted by the Government |

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## APPENDIX XIV.

[Vide item XII—Papers laid on the table of the House—at page 93 supra.]

DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

*Communication to the Council.*

With reference to the answer given to Question No. 1413 at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 25th February 1929 the following report is laid on the table :—

(*b*) The expenditure per mensem and the total expenditure from the commencement on the farms are as furnished below :—

| | Sunkesula fish farm. | Praema fish farm. |
|---|---|---|
| | RS. | RS. |
| Expenditure per mensem ... ... ... | 500 | 100 |
| Total expenditure from commencement ... | 57,900 * | 3,915 |

* This total does not include the figures for 1915–16 and 1916–17 as they are not readily traceable.

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(*c*) The farms are primarily intended for the culture of improved varieties of food and anti-malarial fish both indigenous and exotic, and for the distribution of fry to neighbouring freshwater tanks and rivers whose fisheries are owned by Government and auctioned every year.

At the Sunkesula fish farm the methods of cultivating murrel for the market was worked out and until the Edurur swamp became silted up, young murrel bred in the farm were grown in this swamp and put on the fish-market at Kurnool, thus providing fish at a time when the market had no other supply. It was done only on a small experimental scale but even so has afforded data for enlarged work, when opportunities arise. A great deal of propoganda is, however, essential to interest local agriculturists in pisciculture.

Gourami from the Malay Archipelago and Mauritius were introduced into the farm in 1916; initial experiments in breeding Gourami for distribution were conducted and data regarding its best food, period of growth, age, etc., were ascertained and are still being ascertained at this farm. The Tench and English carp are also under acclimatisation and similar observation. Tench has bred twice in the farm. The above are the more important results of the work at this farm.

But as stated in the annual reports more intensive cultural experiments on a commercial scale could not be undertaken owing to the limited area and costly water-supply at this farm. For these further experiments ponds supplied by a natural flow of spring water have now been constructed at Praema and already the fish there have shown signs of prolific breeding. Serious work has not yet begun at the Praema farm. However, from 1920 onwards several water-holes all over the Nallamalais have been stocked with larvicides which is reported to have resulted in an appreciable reduction of malarial infection.

(*d*) The receipts from the Sunkesula fish farm are given below :—

| | RS. | | RS. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1924–25 ... ... | 298 | 1926–27 ... ... | 238 |
| 1925–26 ... ... | 215 | 1927–28 ... ... | 265 |

These are stray receipts from odd items of sales. There is no regular income from the farm.

There are no receipts from the Praema farm.

Fish farms are not run on commercial lines. Like the agricultural farms they are intended to solve certain piscicultural problems which have a vital bearing on freshwater fisheries.

A. McG. C. Tampoe,
*Secretary to Government.*